

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JENNA SOENDKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jenna Soendker, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 1815, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in Girl Scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a Scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include: (1) Earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration; (2) earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip; (3) earning the senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills; (4) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote Girl Scouting, and (5) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Jenna created a family reading night to promote reading.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jenna Soendker for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

BETTER SCRUTINY OF NATIONAL SPACE PROGRAM

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, everyone in the nation was deeply touched by the terrible tragedy involving the recent loss of seven astronauts aboard the *Columbia* Space Shuttle. As in the case of the *Challenger* Shuttle explosion 17 years ago, Congress must become deeply involved in reviewing the causes of this accident. That review, as our former colleague and highly respected expert on the space program, Tim Roemer reminds us, must be an independent study. Far too much—in money, in effort and in lives—is invested in the manned space program for us to fail to undertake a thorough

and fully credible review, including whether or not congressional funding decisions might have affected the adequacy of the resources devoted to shuttle safety.

Congressman Roemer offered sound advice to the Gehman Commission that is charged with investigating the *Columbia* tragedy in a recent column published in Roll Call, which I am submitting to the RECORD.

The article follows:

NASA PANEL NEEDS TO FIND REAL SOLUTIONS

(By Tim Roemer)

After the Challenger space shuttle exploded on takeoff in 1986, the prominent physicist Richard Feynman dramatically conducted an experiment visually linking the cause and effect for all to understand. He carefully dipped the rubber O-rings into a glass of ice water to replicate what had happened when they hardened, cracked and, consequently, malfunctioned. An independent panel, known as the Rogers Commission, generally concluded that NASA officials and contractors were largely at fault. The report went on to list poor communications with management, sacrificing standards to remain within the budget, and not paying enough attention to hazards and warnings.

Now, 17 years later, the *Columbia* has disintegrated upon re-entry. We cannot merely round up the usual cast of suspects, appoint the same names to an investigation board and point the finger at the predictable target. It is too important to understand how this happened, with decisions led us there and how to fix it.

Whatever the final conclusion, the newly appointed Gehman Commission tasked with discovering the cause should be loaded with independent and aggressive individuals willing to challenge Congressional budgeting decisions and oversight performance. Everything should be on the table.

The commission should have begun its investigation 10 years before last month's takeoff of *Columbia*. On June 23, 1993, Congress voted 216-215 to authorize \$13 billion for space station costs over the next decade. While Members of Congress, the administration and especially NASA recognize that the space station was experiencing significant design glitches, cost overruns and scheduling delays, they also knew that more money would eventually be needed in the overall NASA budget. But the overall NASA budget level would decline in real dollars over the next 10 years. The space station overruns multiplied.

Something had to give. The overall NASA budget went from \$14.36 billion in 1993 to \$14.9 billion in 2002. However, this declining budget in real dollars included an increase in 2002 for securing the NASA facilities from terrorist threats after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. What happened during this same period to the space shuttle budget? In 1994, the budget for the shuttle was \$3.8 billion. It was cut each year for eight years by more than \$500 million. In 1997, \$200 million was moved from the "shuttle account" to the "space station account" by NASA with Congress' approval. Meanwhile, the space station budget grew to \$2.4 billion and then went down to \$2.1 billion. Due to NASA's many alternations in accounting during this 10-year period, it is extremely difficult to calculate

precise figures for many of these programs. The commission should get a detailed and thorough explanation on how much was spent and where the money went.

By 1996, a single prime contractor took over the shuttle operations. The "USA" on the astronauts' uniforms now stood for "United Space Alliance," a collaboration of private-sector companies. Did Congress object? Approve? Ring the alarm bells? I was a member of one of the responsible committees, and we didn't do enough.

The Gehman Commission should analyze the role of Congress in many of these important decisions. In the end, Congress may or may not be part of the problem. But it can be part of the solution.

The House and Senate space oversight committees have a historic opportunity to conduct 18 months of comprehensive oversight hearings over the remaining 108th Congress. They should produce a comprehensive and long-range report detailing general options for a pared down space station, a plan for robotic space exploration even beyond Mars, a robust replacement shuttle, a bigger and better Hubble telescope, and a vision for human space travel using nuclear propulsion technology. And they must propose an affordable and sustainable budget without sacrificing the viability of one program for the benefit of another.

This would be like the phoenix rising from earth, a testimony and living memorial to the seven *Columbia* astronauts. Together, their spirits and earthly remains would break "the surly bonds of earth."

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CEDAR CREEK AND BELLE GROVE NATIONAL PARK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on January 31, 2003, America opened its 388th park in the National Park Service: Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park. The establishment of this park represents years of hard work by many dedicated individuals and institutions. I am inserting into the RECORD an editorial by Adrian O'Connor, "History at Belle Grove" which appeared in the *Winchester Star* on February 1, 2003. This piece outlines the unique partnership which helped create this park and the plans for its future. Following this editorial is a list of those who played a seminal role in bringing this park into existence.

HISTORY AT BELLE GROVE—NOW THERE ARE 388 NATIONAL PARKS

History was made—or, should we say, further history was made—on a chilly, muscle-tightening morning near the front steps of Belle Grove Plantation.

With a gentle snow falling, cattle contentedly lowing in a distant pasture, and a late fog rolling across the surrounding fields—the latter a historical symmetry not lost on Virginia's senior senator, Republican John W. Warner—Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove Plantation became the 388th star in the National Park Service constellation.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Observing the pristine carpet of snow around Belle Grove, Dr. Stanley Hirschberg, former president of the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, likened it to a "fresh beginning" for the historic acreage and manor house near Middletown.

And so it is—a "fresh beginning" born of a partnership to preserve or, as Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-6th, called it, "a new way to protect and preserve." On Friday, the National Park Service officially joined the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation, and Belle Grove Plantation as caretakers of this historical gem—now known as the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park.

These four entities are now partners in a new-model national park, one whose very approach to land acquisition plows virgin ground in this field. Suffice it to say, at a time when rampant development is threatening the Chancellorsville battlefield park near Fredericksburg and dollars for such new endeavors are scarce in the federal budget, this is soil that needed to be furrowed in such fashion. And a steadfast combination from Virginia's congressional delegation—legislators eager to set a new and different precedent in the creation of national parks—saw that it was done.

What is new and different about this national park? For starters, the approach to acquiring land. There will be no acrimonious condemnation by the Federal government in this process; it will only purchase private property inside the 3,000-acre park when owners express a willingness to sell. Such guidelines, Mr. Warner said, need to be "replicated" across America.

"There's little money left for national parks," he said, after noting the weather and the fact that Confederate Gen. Judah A. Early attacked the Union Army ringing Belle Grove under a similar cover of fog on Oct. 19, 1864.

"Uncle Sam doesn't have to buy every square foot of land to bring about preservation."

In addition, all three lawmakers on hand for the ceremony—Messrs. Warner and Goodlatte as well as Rep. Frank Wolf, R-10th—noted that current residents and businesses will be able to live and work within the park's boundaries, and will be free to change or renovate their property as they see fit. And, as Mr. Wolf pointed out, this will be the first national park to allow historical re-enactments—i.e. the annual Battle of Cedar Creek—within its confines.

"There will be a partnership with the community, a reaching out beyond our boundaries," said Fran Mainella, director of the National Park Service.

Significant as well is the broad historical scope of this park. Though known primarily as the site of the climactic Civil War battle in the Shenandoah Valley, Cedar Creek/Belle Grove is more than just a Civil War battlefield. Much as its current watchwords—"Back Country to Breadbasket to Battlefield and Beyond"—duly suggest, the park will embrace a wide swath of our blessed heritage. Emphasis will be placed on Native American and French and Indian War history in addition to that of the Civil War. Central to these themes will be the Belle Grove manor house designed, so local lore has it, by Thomas Jefferson.

Thus, Mr. Wolf had it right when, taking in the panoramic surroundings Friday morning, he said that "we stand on the shoulders of giants." Now, however, it is time for us, as residents of this Valley, to build on the vision of these latter-day statesmen who strove so diligently to craft a new-model national park, one of which we can all be proud.

Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation: Suzanne Chilson, executive director; L.A.

"Butch" Fravel—vice president; Joseph Whitehorse, President; Board Members: Daniel Ambrose; John Cadden—Secretary; Martin Downey; Stanley Hirschberg; Mike Kehoe; Richard Kleese; Kay Ely Pierce; Sam Riggs; and Gary Rinkerman.

Belle Grove, Inc. Trustees: The late Mr. Jay Monahan; Mr. Frederick Andree, past president and Belle Grove Park Working Group representative; Mrs. Lilburn T. Talley, past president. Officers: Mr. Robert W. Claytor, President; Mrs. Harry F. Byrd, III, first vice president; Mrs. Charles Schutte, second vice president; Mrs. Mary Potter Robinson, immediate past president; Mr. David N. Carne, treasure; Mrs. Kathryn Perry Werner, assistant treasurer; Mrs. David Powers, secretary; Mrs. Charles O. Davis, assistant secretary; Mr. Jay Hillerson, at-large member, Executive Committee; Mr. D. Richard Hottel, Jr., At-Large Member, Executive Committee. Members: Mrs. Frank Armstrong, III; Mr. Douglas C. Arthur; Dr. Byron Brill; Mrs. Stuart Butler; Mrs. H. Robert Edwards; Mrs. Lee Fawcett; Dr. Clarence Geier; Mr. Lawrence P. Goldschmidt; Mrs. Jeffrey Harris; Ms. Maral Kalbian; Mrs. Thomas Larsen; Mrs. William H. Leachman, III; Mr. Christopher Lewis; Mr. Ron Llewellyn; Mrs. Gilbert McKown; Dr. Thomas S. Truban. Belle Grove staff: Elizabeth McClung, executive director, Park Working Group representative; Amy Keller, administrative assistant; Jacquelyn Williamson, Museum Shop manager/buyer; Ed Presley, program coordinator; Christopher Taucci, maintenance technician. Selected Belle Grove Advisory Council and Docent Guild Members: Advisory: Mr. Malcolm Brumback; Mr. John Copeland, mayor, Middletown, VA; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Lyon; Mrs. Eve Newman; Mrs. Gee Gee Pasquet. Docent Guild Members: Mrs. Jean Allen; Mr. Charles Davis; Mrs. Robert Dever; Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Frey; Mrs. Dolores Fridinger; Mrs. Mary Ellen Gross; Ms. Paula Hite; Mrs. Wanda Kruezfeldt; Ms. Barbara Moss.

National Park Service (NPS): Jeffrey P. Reinbold, NPS planner; Alexander "Sandy" Rives, NPS Virginia director; Wendy L. O'Sullivan, NPS project manager; Marie G. Rust, NPS Northeast regional director; Donald T. King, NPS chief of lands, Martinsburg office; Charles F. Blouser, NPS realty specialty, Martinsburg office; Fran P. Mainella, NPS director; Denny Galvin, former NPS deputy director; Alma Ripps, NPS legislative affairs specialist; Donald J. Hellmann, NPS deputy assistant director Legislative & Congressional Affairs; Steve Griles, Department of the Interior deputy secretary; Howard G. Miller, lands coordinator & control officer; Richard Moe, president, National Trust for Historic Preservation; David Brown, executive vice president, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Paul Edmondson, vice president and general counsel, National Trust for Historic Preservation; James Vaughan, vice president, Stewardship of Historic Sites, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Robert Nieweg, director, and regional attorney, Southern Field Office National Trust for Historic Preservation; Patrick Lally, director of Congressional Affairs, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Emma Panahy, program assistant, Southern Field Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Members of Congress: Senator John Warner; Senator George Allen; Rep. Bob Goodlatte; former Senator Chuck Robb, the late Rep. French Slaughter.

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation Trustees: Patricia L. Zontine, chair of the Board of Trustees; Joseph E. Callahan; Vincent F. Callahan; Faye C. Cooper; James A. Davis; Beverly H. Fleming; Kay D. Frye; Nancy H. Hess; Susie M. Hill; Kathleen S.

Kilpatrick; Richard B. Kleese; William B. Kyger, Jr.; Allen L. Louderback; John W. Mountcastle; D. Eveland Newman; David W. Powers; Alexander L. Rives; Dan C. Stickley, Jr.; Kris C. Tierney; James L. White; the late Carrington Williams.

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Commissioners: Daniel J. Beattie; Larry D. Bradford; John L. Heatwole; Donovan E. Hower; Richard D. Kern; Janet O. Kilby; Scot W. Marsh; Nicholas J. Nerangis; the late Eugene L. Newman; William G. O'Brien; Joseph W.A. Whitehorse; H. Alexander Wise, Jr. Staff of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: Howard J. Kittell; John Hutchinson, V; Nancy R. Long; Elizabeth Paradis Stern; Sherman L. Fleek.

Rep. Frank R. Wolf staff members: Daniel Scandling, chief of staff; Chris Santora, legislative assistant.

Senator John Warner staff member: Ann Loomis, legislative director.

RECOGNIZING CARRIE BOYCE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Carrie Boyce, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 472, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in girl scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include, (1.) earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration, (2.) earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip, (3.) earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills, (4.) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote girl scouting, and (5.) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Carrie refurbished and painted a playground.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Carrie Boyce for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DELANO PALUGHI

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Delano